

AL-V-B-286

Mid-1840's to early 20th century

Barrelville Survey District  
Barrelville  
Private

Barrelville Survey District is located in the northeastern section of the Georges Creek coal region of western Maryland. The town lies in the narrow Jennings Run Valley. The architecture of Barrelville is characterized by several vernacular building styles. Early development of the town took place along MD Route 47, the Wellersburg Road.

Barrelville is a typical company town located in the northeastern end of the Georges Creek coal region of western Maryland. The town dates from the mid-to-late 1840's early in the development of the Maryland mining region.

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

AL-V-B-286  
MAGI #0111995438  
SD

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Barrelville Survey District

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

MD Route 36 and 47

CITY, TOWN

Barrelville

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany County

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Multiple Ownership

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland 21502

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

MHT Inventory AL-V-B-072

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

AL-V-B-286

**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

---

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

Barrelville Survey District is located in the northeastern section of the Georges Creek region of western Maryland. The town lies in the narrow Jennings Run Valley, MD State Route 36 and 47 intersect in the center of the town. An embankment of a branch railroad parallels MD Rt. 47 on the west.

The architecture of Barrelewill is characterized by several vernacular building styles. Early development of the town took place along MD Route 47, the Wellersburg Road. Some early structure 1½ story buildings of plank construction with stone foundations and gabled roofs. Examples are #'s 24-26 on the attached map. Vernacular structures which are examples of a style more common to western Maryland are 2 story, 3 bays wide frame buildings with stone foundations. These buildings have gabled roofs with central gables and shed roofed porches sheltering their facades. Examples are #12 and 13 on the attached map.

Variations of the vernacular style include 2 story, 2 bay frame buildings (#19) and a 2 story frame store with a gabled roof and a two tiered porch sheltering the facade (#2). A group of small motel cottages and a gazelo with a cross-gambrel roof date from the early to mid 20th century (#1). Examples of the bungalow style in Barrelville are typical 1½ story frame buildings with gabled roofs and oversized dormers (#30).

The one example of a more complex style of architecture is the Robertson House (AL-V-B-072).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Barrelville is a typical company town located in the northeastern end of the Georges Creek coal region of western Maryland. The town dates from the mid-to-late 1840's, early in the development of the Maryland mining region.

As early as 1843 Samuel B. Barrell operated two coal mines at the site of the town, extracting coal from the "Old Parker Vein" and the "Bluebaugh Vein".<sup>1</sup> In 1847 the Barrellville Mining Company was chartered by Barrell,<sup>2</sup> William Ridgely and John Pickell to mine coal on Barrell's property.

The Parker Vein Coal Company also mined coal at Barrelville. Shortly before the 1850 completion of the C & O Canal the Parker Vein Coal Company, anticipating expanding coal production, announced plans to build houses for miners at Barrelville.<sup>3</sup> In 1852 this company was one of several shipping coal to Cumberland on the Mount Savage and Cumberland Railroad.<sup>4</sup>

Early in the 20th century the Cumberland Basin Coal Company dominated the coal industry in and around Barrelville.<sup>5</sup> A 1905 description of the Maryland mining region relates that this company mined coal of the "Allegheny" veins which was shipped on a company owned branch railroad to the Cumberland and Pennsylvania Railroad on Jennings Run.<sup>6</sup>

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Harvey, Katherine, The Best-Dressed Miners, Life and Labor in the Maryland Coal Region, 1835-1910. Ithica: Cornell University Press, 1969.

Interview with Mr. Benjamin Samsom, Cumberland, MD on January 21, 1982.

Legislature of Maryland, Charter of the Barrellville Mining Company, Philadelphia:  
CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

David A. Dorsey, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Bureau of Mines

DATE

STREET &amp; NUMBER

21 State Circle, Shaw House

TELEPHONE

(301) 269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

(#9 - Bibliographical Continued)

Barrett and Jones, Printers, 1847.

Scharf, Thomas. History of Western Maryland, Vol. II, Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts, 1882.

Thomas and Williams, History of Allegany County, Maryland, Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1969. (originally published in 1923).

Footnotes:

<sup>1</sup>Thomas Scharf, History of Western Maryland, Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts, 1882, p. 1446.

<sup>2</sup>Legislature of Maryland, Charter of the Barrellville Mining Company, Philadelphia: Barrett and Jones, Printors, 1847.

<sup>3</sup>Katherine Harvey, The Best Dressed Miners, Life and Labor in the Maryland Coal Region, 1835 - 1910. Ithica: Cornell University Press, 1969, pp. 77-78.

<sup>4</sup>Thomas and Williams, History of Allegany County, Maryland. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1969 (originally published in 1923) p. 454

<sup>5</sup>Interview iwth Mr. Benjamin Sansom, Cumberland, MD January 21, 1982.

<sup>6</sup>Thomas and Williams, p. 680

# BARRELLVILLE MINING COMPANY, MARYLAND.

## EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS

MADE BY

A COMMITTEE OF THE MARYLAND LEGISLATURE,

AND

Rev. A. CRUGER, M. C.  
Professor BENJAMIN SHELMAN, of Yale College, Conn.  
Professor JAMES BENWICK, of Columbia College, N. Y. C.  
HENRY B. SCHOOLCRAFT, Late Geologist, Sec. Geo. U. S. Service.  
E. S. BENWICK, Engineer of Mines and Pargen.  
Major DOUGLASS.  
Doctor DUCATEL, of Baltimore.  
DAVID MUSHAT, } England.  
Doctor BRE. }  
W. FEATHERSTONHAUGH, }

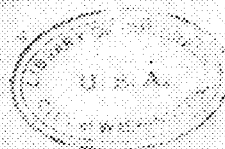
## CHARTER

OF THE

BARRELLVILLE MINING COMPANY,

BY THE

LEGISLATURE OF MARYLAND.



PHILADELPHIA:

BARRETT & JONES, PRINTERS, 34 CARTER'S ALLEY.

1847.

AL-I-B-286

is 45 to 55 tons from each furnace  
 of 7½ tons per day for 300 days

*Iron.*—There is no pig iron made  
 quantities, that commands so uni-  
 mills and foundries, as does that  
 of Baltimore; and the ores and  
 on, being the same or better, we  
 our iron; and as our furnaces are  
 wing 15 feet water can take in  
 ping. Freights from Georgetown  
 as low at all seasons as from

No. 2 Iron at the furnace, for  
 one year.

Agent servant,

JOHN RINNEY.

AL-V-B-286

## AN ACT

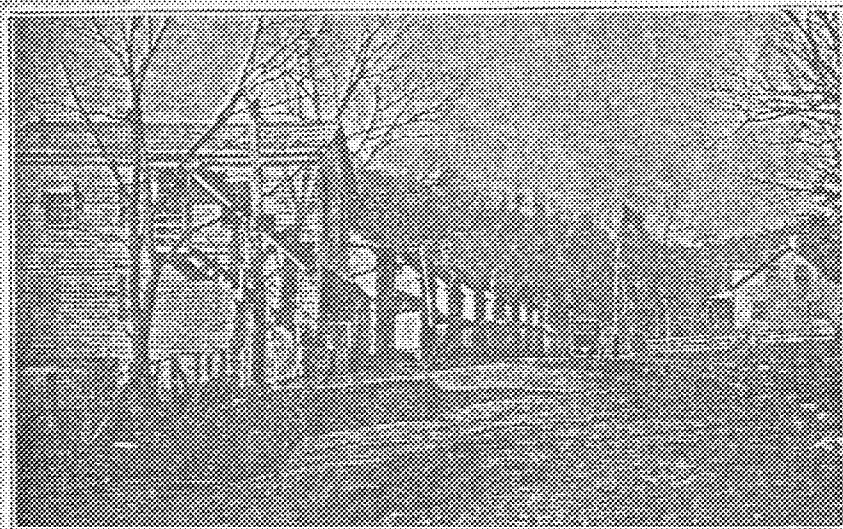
### TO INCORPORATE THE BARRELLVILLE MINING COMPANY.

*Section 1.* Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Mary-  
 land, that Samuel B. Barrell, William Ridgely and John Pickell,  
 their associates, successors and assigns, are hereby made a cor-  
 poration, by the name of the Barrellville Mining Company, for the  
 purpose of purchasing, opening and working mines of coal and  
 iron, and for the manufacture of iron, and of all articles of which  
 iron is a component part, and for the vending of the products of  
 the same; and as such corporation shall have a common seal,  
 and shall be empowered to sue and be sued, plead and be im-  
 pleaded in any court of law or equity.

*Section 2.* And be it enacted, That said corporation shall have  
 the power to hold and possess real and personal estate to the  
 amount of five hundred thousand dollars, for the purposes afore-  
 said; provided, that said corporation shall at no time hold or  
 possess, in this state, more than five thousand acres of land ex-  
 clusive of such lands as may be used for the purposes of a road  
 or roads, and said corporation shall have the right to make by-  
 laws, and all such other rules and regulations as may be neces-  
 sary for the proper management of its concerns; provided, the  
 same are not repugnant to the laws of this state or of the United  
 States.

*Section 3.* And be it enacted, That the capital stock of said  
 corporation, whether the same be real or personal, or both, shall  
 amount to the sum of five hundred thousand dollars, which shall  
 be divided into shares of one hundred dollars each, and said cor-  
 poration shall have power to increase said capital stock, if they  
 should think it advisable so to do; provided, said capital stock  
 shall not be increased so as to exceed at any time the sum of one  
 million of dollars, which additional stock shall be divided into  
 shares, as aforesaid, and the lands and mines of said Samuel B.  
 Barrell shall constitute a part of said capital stock, at such a price  
 as may be agreed upon between said Barrell and said corporation.





VIEW OF TOWN SURROUNDING GEORGE'S CREEK &amp; PARKER COAL CO.

drifts and stoppings, and is found in a lawfuf condition by means of ditches, assisted by pumps.

The roof is good and the timbering is well looked after to prevent accidents from falls of roof.

The coal is mined by pick, blasted by powder and is gathered and hauled to the outside, over a short tramroad to the tippie by mules. It is then dumped into railroad cars and shipped over the Cumberland and Pennsylvania Railroad. Oil and carbide are used by the miners for illumination.

The mine equipments consist of two Ledgewood hoists, driven by compressed air, and the powerhouse is equipped with a locomotive boiler, 150 H. P., an Engersol ram compressor and all other buildings and machinery necessary to equip a mine of medium capacity.

This mine employed 46 men, worked 53 days and produced 1,555,935 tons of coal, being in operation only a short time.

#### UNITED BIG VEIN COAL COMPANY

John Sullivan.....Supt. and General Manager

Michael Bishilda.....Mine Foreman No. 1

Arthur Baker.....Mine Foreman No. 2

United Big Vein Mine is located west of Mount Savage. It con-

Bond & Parker mines  
in  
Barrelville

Re-opened in 1903 by the  
Cumberland  
Basin Coal Co.  
operated for 9 yrs  
idle for 5

Dec. 1916 Georges Creek - Parker  
Coal  
reopened

also see K.H. p. 77

AL-V-B-286  
BARRELVILLE SURVEY DISTRICT  
ALLEGANY COUNTY, MD  
UNSCALED DRAWING

MHT-AL-V-B-071

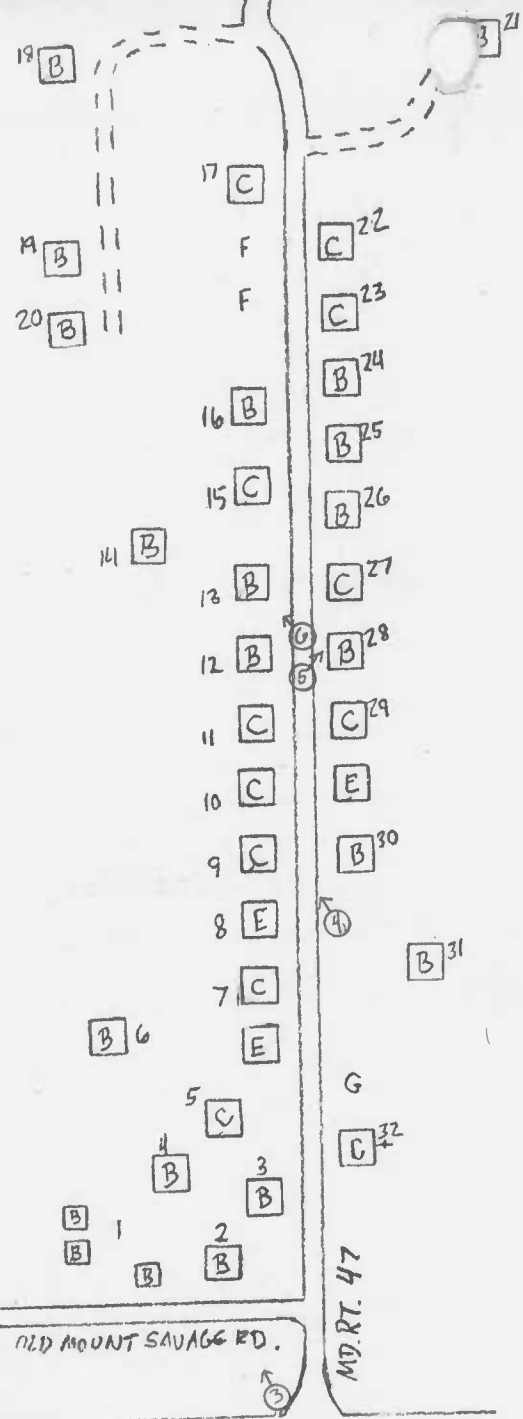


MHT  
AL-V-B-072



FORMER CUMBERLAND BASIN COAL CO. BRANCH RR.

NORTH BRANCH RUN





42°30"

FROSTBURG 4.1 MI.  
MORANTOWN 1.8 MI.

(FROSTBURG)



Cumberland: MD;PA  
USGS 7.5 Minute Series  
Scale 1:24,000  
1949; photorevised 1974

AL-V-B-286  
Barrelville Survey District  
MD Route 36 and 47



AL-V-B-286

Barrelville Survey District

Allegany County

David A. Dorsey; 1/82

Looking NW (photo #1)



AL-V-B-286

Barrelville Survey District

Allegany County

David A. Dorsey 1/82

Looking N (photo #2)





AL-V-B-286

Barrelville Survey District

Allegany County

David A. Dorsey 1/82

Looking N (photo #3)



AL-V-B-286

Barrelville Survey District

Allegany County

David A. Dorsey 1/82

Looking NW (photo #4)



AL-V-B-286

Barrelville Survey District

Allegany County

David A. Dorsey 1/82

Looking NE (photo #5)



AL-V-B-286

Barrelville Survey District

Allegany County

David A. Dorsey 1/82

Looking NW (photo #6)